

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended):** A method for locating difficult access points on a topological map using discontinuities between curvilinear distances of neighboring points, the method comprises the steps of:

scanning points on a map of curvilinear distances, using reliefs only crossable by detour trajectories;

reading estimated value $DT(0)$ of the curvilinear distance assigned, in the map of curvilinear distances, to a point C_{00} under analysis;

determining a Euclidean distance $C(V)$ separating a point V under investigation, from the point C_{00} under analysis using a chamfer mask distance transform;

determining an estimated value $DT(V)$ of the curvilinear distance assigned, in the map of curvilinear distances, to the point V under investigation;

calculating an absolute value of any discrepancy between the estimated values of the curvilinear distances, $DT(0)$ and $DT(V)$, with the determined Euclidean distance $C(V)$;

determining a difficulty of access of the point C_{00} under analysis based upon an inequality of the absolute value calculated and the determined Euclidean distance $C(V)$;
and

rendering a display of a map indicating difficult access points from a reference point on a topological map established on the basis of a map of estimated curvilinear distances separating the points of the topological map from the reference point, comprising the steps of:

analyzing the map of curvilinear distances by means of a chamfer mask

~~cataloging the approximate values $C(V)$ of the Euclidean distances by separating a point C_{00} of the map from its nearest neighbors V , so as to extract therefrom, at each point C_{00} of the map of curvilinear distances, the discrepancies $(DT(V)-DT(0))$ of curvilinear distances separating the point considered C_{00} from its nearest neighbors V ;~~

~~comparing the discrepancies $(DT(V)-DT(0))$ with the approximate values $C(V)$ of the Euclidean distances of the chamfer mask; and~~

~~describing the point considered C_{00} as difficult of access when a difference appears.~~

2. **(Currently Amended):** The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein determining a difficulty of access and transforming the point C_{00} under analysis based upon an inequality of the absolute value calculated and the determined Euclidean distance $C(V)$ includes using several thresholds are used during the comparison of the discrepancies of curvilinear distances and Euclidean distances, so as to devise degrees~~determine a degree of importance in the importance of the detours~~ detour required to reach a difficult access point.

3. **(Currently Amended):** The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the difficult access points of the map of curvilinear distances that are regarded as difficult of access are located on the topological map established on the basis of the map of curvilinear distances by a pattern and/or a particular texture.

4. **(Currently Amended):** The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the degrees in the importance of the detour required of a difficult access point are evidenced~~indicated~~ on the topological map by different patterns and/or textures.

5. **(Currently Amended):** The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the chamfer mask used ~~for the locating of~~ for locating the difficult access points is of dimension 3×3 .

6. (**Currently Amended**): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the chamfer mask used for ~~the locating of the~~locating the difficult access points is of dimension 5×5 .